



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: DAHM *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/601,645

Conf. No.: 7793

Cust. No.: 24961

Filed: August 4, 2000

For: METHOD FOR THE QUANTITATIVE  
DETERMINATION OF TUMOR CELLS IN A  
BODY FLUID AND TEST KITS SUITABLE  
THEREOF

Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Goldberg, J.A.

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Date of Deposit September 8, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Kathryn Boyle

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment After Final, responsive to the  
Final Office Action mailed July 8, 2003, for filing in connection with the above-  
identified application. If a Petition for extension of time is needed, this paper is  
to be considered such Petition.

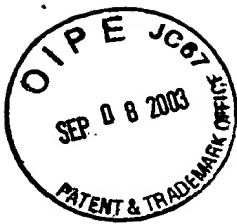
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, including fees for an extension  
of time and for the petition, that may be due in connection with this and the attached  
papers or with this application during its entire pendency to Deposit Account No. 50-  
1213. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By:

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Attorney Docket No. 24741-1509US  
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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR  
§1.116 --EXPEDITED  
PROCEDURE--  
EXAMINING GROUP 1600**

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Kathryn Boyle

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action mailed July 8, 2003 (the "Office Action"), and further to the telephone interview of August 25, 2003, with the Examiner, consideration of the following remarks and entry of the following Amendment, which is in accord with the Examiner's suggestions pursuant to discussions in the aforementioned interview, are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that entry of the Amendment places the application into condition for allowance, or, alternatively, reduces the number of issues for appeal by addressing specific requirements set forth by the Examiner in the Final Office Action and in the interview.

**Amendments to th** claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.